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REPAIR ACTIVITY VINH AIRFIELD, NORTH VIETNAM 18-44N 105-40E



VHF COMMUNICATIONS
EQUIPMENT

VAN TRUCK
W/ DISCONE ANTENNA

GENERATOR



VINH 3.5 NM

NATURAL SURFACE STRIP
6700' X 120' APPROX

TENT

TRUCK

REPAIRED
CRATERS

NPIC M-5119 (11/68)

TRUCK ON
PARALLEL STRIP

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REFERENCE:

ATTACHMENT TO M-5119
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REPAIR ACTIVITY
VINH AIRFIELD, NORTH VIETNAM
1844N 10540E

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD DEPICTS NEW REPAIR ACTIVITY AT VINH AIRFIELD, SUBSEQUENT TO THE BOMBING CESSATION OF 1 NOVEMBER 1968.

2. LOCATION:

3.5 NM NORTH OF VINH.

3. BACKGROUND:

VINH AIRFIELD WAS FIRST STRUCK IN MAY 1965. NO ATTEMPT TO REPAIR THE AIRFIELD WAS MADE UNTIL JANUARY 1968. WITH THE REPAIR OF THE NATURAL SURFACE STRIP PARALLELING THE RUNWAY, THE NORTH VIETNAMESE FOR A LIMITED TIME, HAD A FIGHTER RECOVERY BASE IN THE VICINITY OF THE DMZ.

DURING THIS TIME SEVERAL MIG FIGHTERS WERE DEPLOYED TO VINH AIRFIELD. AIRSTRIKES IN EARLY APRIL 1968 HOWEVER, RESULTED IN HEAVY DAMAGE AND WERE FOLLOWED BY A LACK OF SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY UNTIL JULY 1968. IN JULY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE BEGAN TO REPAIR SOME OF THE CRATERS ON THE PARALLEL STRIP BUT NO ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO MAKE THE ENTIRE STRIP SERVICEABLE.

4. MISSION READOUT:

PHOTOGRAPHY FROM MISSION [REDACTED] REVEALS THE INITIAL ATTEMPT TO REPAIR THE APPROXIMATE 6700 x 120 FT. NATURAL SURFACE STRIP

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PARALLELING THE RUNWAY.

PHOTOGRAPHY FROM MISSION [REDACTED] REVEALS NEW REPAIR

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ACTIVITY ON THE NATURAL SURFACE STRIP PARALLELING THE RUNWAY, FOLLOWING THE BOMBING HALT OF 1 NOVEMBER 1968. AT LEAST EIGHTEEN CRATERS HAVE BEEN FILLED AND APPARENTLY ROLLED OR SCRAPED (NOT ALL REPAIRED CRATERS ARE SHOWN ON GRAPHIC). FOUR CRATERS ARE APPARENTLY BEING FILLED. (NOT SHOWN ON GRAPHIC) EIGHT CRATERS AT THE NORTH END OF THE NATURAL SURFACE STRIP ARE PARTIALLY FILLED, BUT THEIR STATUS IS THE SAME AS REPORTED IN JULY 1968. TWO TRUCKS AND THREE TENTS ARE OBSERVED ON AND NEAR THE STRIP. EARTH FROM THE OLD AIRCRAFT REVETMENTS ADJACENT TO THE RUNWAY IS APPARENTLY BEING USED TO FILL THE CRATERS ON THE PARALLEL STRIP. (NOT SHOWN ON GRAPHIC)

THE MAIN RUNWAY REMAINS UNSERVICEABLE. APPROXIMATELY 3,500 FT AT THE SOUTH END OF THE PARALLEL STRIP IS SERVICEABLE.

NEWLY IDENTIFIED MOBILE VHF COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT IS OBSERVED IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA OF VINH AIRFIELD AT UTM WF700730. THE EQUIPMENT CONSISTS OF A VAN TRUCK WITH A DISCONE ANTENNA, NORMALLY USED IN AIR-TO-GROUND COMMUNICATIONS AND A SINGLE AXLE GENERATOR.

5. REMARKS:

APPARENTLY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE HAVE TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF THE 1 NOVEMBER BOMBING HALT TO RENEW THEIR EFFORTS TO REPAIR VINH AIRFIELD. THE NEWLY IDENTIFIED MOBILE VHF COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT WHICH HAS BEEN MOVED INTO THE IMMEDIATE AREA WOULD PROVIDE AIR-TO-GROUND COMMUNICATIONS FOR VINH AIRFIELD

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AND POSSIBLY INDICATES THE EARLY DEPLOYMENT OF AIRCRAFT TO THIS AIRFIELD.

KM

MISSION:

[REDACTED]

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MAP REFERENCE: AMS SERIES L7014 SHEET 6146 III 1:50,000

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